

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 5, line 10 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to FIG. 2, a plurality of the teeth 17, 17', 17'', etc. are each set at an angle A', A'', etc. relative to axis A. In the preferred embodiments of the present invention, angle A', A'', etc. as preferably within a range of approximately 75-89°, and most preferably approximately 84° (or approximately 1° to approximately 15° with respect to transverse axis T). It will be understood that Angles A', A'', etc. may also vary from tooth to tooth in a particular pattern. Also, each of the teeth 17', 17'', may be set in a manner such that they extend in directions which alternate from one side of transverse axis T of the band saw blade 10 to the other side as illustrated in FIG. 2. In another example, the pattern may comprise both set teeth and unset or straight teeth. In a preferred embodiment, the pattern may include five teeth comprising a first unset tooth and four set teeth, the latter four of which alternate from one side of the transverse 20 axis T to the other side. Other patterns also may be employed in accordance with the present invention. For example, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/435,108 entitled "Band Saw Blade Having Reduced Noise and Uniform Tooth Loading Characteristics", (Atty . Docket No. 010211-0033) assigned to the assignee hereof, and hereby incorporated herein by reference as part of the present disclosure, describes several tooth patterns that may include variously setting primary, secondary and tertiary teeth in such a manner as to minimize noise and vibration of the band saw blade.

Please amend the replacement paragraph, which was filed on November 27, 2002 as a replacement of the original paragraph bridging pages 6-7, as follows:

It will be understood by one of ordinary skill in the pertinent art that the location and dimensions of the shelf 30, 30' affects the functionality of the shelf in removing dust. For simplicity, the following will use tooth 17' for an example in describing the location of the shelf 30'; however, it will be understood that this description may be equally applicable to all teeth disposed on the band saw blade 10. As shown in FIG. 2, the distance between the tip 20' and shelf tip 36' is defined as "S1," and the distance between the tip 20' and the bend plane 18 is

defined as “B”. Also, the distance between the tip 20' and the curvilinear base surface 26 is defined as “D”. If S1 is set equal to or greater than [[below B]], then the shelf 30' will not be in a proper location to “catch” and remove the dust cut from the kerf wall 38. Specifically, a dust gap “DG” is defined between a lateral point 40' of the tooth 17' (which also establishes the kerf wall 38) and a side surface 42 at the base of the band saw blade 10. Effectively, the shelf 30' reduces the size of the dust gap or creates an effective dust gap “EDG” that is substantially less than DG.

Please amend the replacement paragraph, which was filed on November 27, 2002 as a replacement of the original paragraph bridging pages 9-10, as follows:

The band saw blade 210 is generally similar to the band saw blade 10 of FIGS. 1-3; however, each set tooth 217', 217", etc. further includes a relief portion 244', 244", respectively, formed on the upper corner of the tooth on the side facing the respective kerf wall 238. As illustrated in FIG. 5, the relief portions 244', 244" each define a relief angle RA', RA" [[“RA”]] (shown in FIG. 5). The relief portions form an angle which is preferably within the range of between approximately 0° and approximately 2° with respect to a plane defined by the unset tooth 220. The relief portions 244', 244" function to locate the respective shelf 230 closer to the kerf wall 238 to thereby further reduce the dust gap DG to DG1 and, in turn, decrease the effective dust gap from EDG to EDG1. The relief portion may also define a tangential angle “TA” (shown in FIG. 6). In this way, the edge is relieved to reduce the effects of friction during cutting of a work piece (not shown). The angle TA is preferably within the range of between approximately 3° and approximately 6° with respect to a plane defined by the side of the blade body 210. It will be understood that the dimensions and interrelationship of S1 and B, as described above, applies to the current embodiment as well. The straight or unset tooth 220 provided in this embodiment also includes a shelf 230 similar to that described above.